

Hawaii MARINE

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MCBH honors lives lost in terror

Cpl. Jessica M. Mills
Sports Editor

It has been three years since the atrocious and deadly terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, in which four U.S. commercial flights were hijacked by terrorists and crashed into the World Trade Center Towers, the Pentagon and a field in Pennsylvania. The attacks took thousands of American lives and shook our country to its core, but the anger and pain of our countrymen has not subsided. We have not forgotten.

To commemorate that fateful day and honor all of the innocent lives lost, MCB Hawaii held a Patriot Day Flagpole Ceremony here during morning colors Friday.

"We pray to heal our nation and for the thousands of American lives lost



Photo Illustration by Kristin Herrick

See 9-11, A-8 Cpl. Stephen Sanchez, a bugler with the Marine Pacific Forces Band, plays Taps during the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the base flagpole Friday.

3rd Marines prep for HCAx

Foreign brothers head to Big Island to support Devil Dogs

Cpl. Jessica M. Mills
Sports Editor

About 25 Tongan Marines from the Tongan Defence Service, and 133 Singaporean soldiers from Ace Company, Singaporean Armed Forces, will cross-train with U.S. Marines during the Hawaii Combined Arms Exercise from Sept. 12 to Oct. 15 at the Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island of Hawaii.

Prior to their departure to HCAx, the Tongans and Singaporeans had to complete more than a week's worth of preparatory training aboard MCB Hawaii with their host units.

"The Tongan Marines came to train with the U.S. Marines to prepare their unit for an upcoming

deployment to the Middle East," said Capt. Christopher Crimi, the commanding officer of Headquarters Company, 3rd Marine Regiment. "They are very interested in learning counter-terrorist operations from us. But prior to the cross-training we have scheduled at HCAx, we had to train the Tongans in a number of basic skills they will need."

The Tongan Marines spent time in the Indoor Simulator Marksmanship Trainer, working on individual rifleman training and forward observer techniques. They also completed fast roping training techniques at the base rappel tower at Landing Zone Boondocker. Prior to leaving for

HCAx, the Tongans also completed a U.S. Marine Corps Physical Fitness Test.

While at HCAx, the Tongan Marines will participate in opposition forces, and act as the aggressors for the Marines of Headquarters Company, 3rd Marine Regiment and 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment. They will also participate in live fire ranges, and culminate the training with platoon live fires.

"My Marines are looking forward to training with Headquarters Company, there is a lot of training exercises planned for the next month," said Capt. Karl Pu-Ivai, Tongan Marine liaison from the Tongan Defence Service. "I think the boys are real-

See HCAx, A-7



Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

Royal Tongan Marines depart the Joint Venture, HSV-X1, upon arrival at the Big Island of Hawaii. They will be participating in the Hawaii Combined Arms Exercise, attached to 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment.

'Blue Hawaii'



Sgt. Jerome L. Edwards

Pfc. John McJunkin, finance clerk with Headquarters Battalion, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay screams from pain while role playing as part of the "Blue Hawaii" mass casualty exercise here Wednesday.

Female cammies coming in 2005

Smaller sizes should eliminate bulkiness

Shakinta Johnston
Marine Corps Systems Command

MARINE CORPS SYSTEMS COMMAND, Quantico, VA — With the scheduled fielding of additional sizes of combat utility uniforms in January 2005, female Marines will be able to buy uniforms specifically designed with the woman warrior in mind.

The Marine Corps has adopted six female-specific sized blouses and seven female-specific sized trousers. It's expected that the new sizes will improve uniform fit and function for about 90 percent of the female Marine population who now wear the X-Small, X-Short; X-Small Short; Small Short; Small Regular; Medium X-Short; and Medium Short (trousers only).

"The female cammies will appear identical to those in the existing inventory, and new sizes will be offered in addition to those already available," said Dee Townes, combat uniform project officer, Marine Corps Systems Command. While

female Marines considering buying additional uniforms may want to wait until the new sizes are available, this announcement does not change the requirement that all Marines own one set of woodland and one set of desert digital cammies by Oct. 1.

According to Townes, Marine Corps Military Clothing Sales Stores will carry the new uniform when it becomes available. The uniform size and body measurements will be listed on the care label inside the chest and hip pockets.

"Better fitting cammies for female Marines will definitely reduce the amount of excess material, especially for those with smaller figures," said Cpl. Cavel Wallen, a legal chief at Headquarters and Service Battalion here. According to Wallen, who participated in surveys and testing, new cammies will make a big difference when wearing field equipment, such as the flak jacket, when extra material tends to

See CAMMIES, A-8

FAP Marines secure base

Cpl. Megan L. Stiner
Combat Correspondent

(Part one of a four part series.)

Entering MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, may seem simple enough if you have all the right stickers and identification, but for personnel checking the vehicles and people coming aboard base, the concept is not as easy as it may seem.

Friday marked the beginning of two weeks of concentrated range, classroom and practical application training for roughly 30 Marines who will soon be guarding the gates to K-Bay.

Every six months, units on base give up personnel to take part in the Fleet Assistance Program to undergo preservice military police training to eventually work as gate sentries or at the pass and identification house at the main gate.

"The military police department on base does not have enough manpower to provide security on base and complete required Marine Corps annual training at the same time," said Capt. Sam L. Roy, deputy provost marshal for the Provost Marshals Office. "We really rely on the FAPs in order to keep our Marines working to the best of their abilities."

See FAB, A-6

NEWS BRIEFS

Admin/Finance Office Relocation

Base Personnel Administration Center will be relocating to building 401, effective Sept. 27. This move is mainly to help aid in establishing the Installation Personnel Administration Center. The Finance Office will be relocating to building 216, effective Sept. 27.

BCP-1 Class

A Bundles Capabilities Package 1 orientation class will be held at the Learning Resource Center, building 221, at 2 p.m. on Thursday and Sept. 27.

Kailua Road Construction

There will be roadwork in the Kailua area on Mokapu Road/Mokapu Boulevard from Kalaheo Avenue to the entrance of Marine Corps Base Hawaii. The work hours will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. Motorists are advised to use alternate routes, allow extra time while driving through work areas, and observe all traffic controls. For more information, call 547-7722.

H-3 Lane Closures

The Kaneohe-bound lanes of the H-3 freeway will be closed to all vehicular traffic Sept. 25 - 26, from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. for routine tunnel maintenance.

Noise Prohibited on Mokapu Stretch

In consideration for the neighbors of MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Marines and Sailors running in formation near the back gate or on the trail around the Nuupia Ponds are prohibited from chanting or making excessive noise.

Equal Opportunity Representative Course

Marine Staff NCOs, officers, and Navy equivalent serving with Marines, who are interested in learning about the Corps' equal opportunity program can attend the MARFORPAC Equal Opportunity Representative Course Sept. 27 - Oct. 1 at MCBH Kaneohe Bay. Those completing this 40-hour course become valuable assets to their unit and commander by learning about current trends and requirements. They promote equal opportunity by conducting classes, monitoring the command climate, and assisting individuals with discrimination or sexual harassment concerns.

Those interested can contact Master Sgt. Milton D. White, MCBH Kaneohe Bay equal opportunity advisor at 257-7720 or e-mail milton.d.white@usmc.mil. Command approval is required to attend this career-enhancing course.

Register to vote

Below is a list of helpful Web sites providing information about voting:

www.manpower.usmc.mil, select "Personal and Family Readiness," then select "Voting,"
www.fvap.gov
www.vote-smart.org
www.republicansabroad.org
www.democratsabroad.org
www.fvap.gov/pubs/howtoinfo.html
www.fvap.gov/pubs/faq.html

O'Club Parking Reserved for Patrons Only

The parking area for The Officers' Club aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, is to be used only by patrons of the club while visiting the facility.

Residents of the Bachelor Officer Quarters must use the BOQ parking area, which is provided on the opposite side of the BOQ from the O'Club.

Important Phone Numbers

On-Base Emergencies	257-9111
Military Police	257-7114
Child Protective Service	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852
Business Management Hotline	257-3188

HAWAII MARINE

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Submit items for the *Hawaii Marine* to PAO no later than noon on the Friday prior to publication, using the following addresses:

HAWAII MARINE, BOX 63062, BLDG. 216,
MCB HAWAII, KANEOHE BAY, HAWAII 96863
E-MAIL: EDITOR@HAWAII.MARINE.COM
FAX: 257-1289, PHONE: 257-8836

In the CG's Mailbox



BRIG. GEN.
TRAUTMAN

The commanding general invites input from the base community via the CG's Mail box on the following topics:

- What are we doing that we shouldn't be doing?
- What are we not doing that we should be doing?
- What are we doing that we should be doing better?

Responses should include a recommendation that will help solve the problem and must include your name and return address.

E-mail your suggestions to the commanding general at CGMAIL@mcbh.usmc.mil.

If you don't have an e-mail account, you can fax

your suggestions to 257-3290, or you can mail them to:

Commanding General

(Attn: CG Mail)

MCB Hawaii

Box 63002

MCB Kaneohe Bay, HI

96863-3002

Your suggestions can also be dropped off in person on base at the Adjutant's office in building 216, Room 1.

(Editor's Note: Letters of any length may be trimmed and edited in the interest of good taste and brevity.)

Good evening, sir,

What I think we should be doing is improving the shopping at the exchange. When I say shopping, I mean clothing and footwear. I find myself always spending my hard earned money shopping all the way down at Pearl Harbor for my clothing and footwear needs. From my view, marketing is not checking the demo's of the base population. I do understand that space is limited, but if you offer better shopping to the Marines and Sailors of the base, you could keep them spending at the base vice other locations. We have a very weak selection to choose from.

Terrance Hoyte

Dear Mr. Hoyte,

The commanding general asked me to respond to your Sept. 3 e-mail because your concern falls within my staff responsibilities. He appreciates that you took the time to participate in the CG Mail program.

You express a concern that the Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) is not checking the base demographics when buying for patrons, and therefore this causes you to travel to the Navy Exchange or other locations off base to meet your clothing and footwear needs. Let me first address your concern about not meeting the needs of the majority population, and then next comment on why we want you to shop on Base and what you can do to help us get it right.

MCCS has several tools used in determining merchandise selection for our MCX.

First and foremost is a thorough study of the base demographics, including rank structure, marital status, age, gender, number and age of family members, branch of services, where the population works and lives, etc. Second, buyers' track market trends for soft and hard goods, conduct customer focus sessions, review Customer Satisfaction Survey research, review customer comment submissions, etc. Lastly, the Retail Head and buyers meticulously review merchandise assortment and inventory movement to determine exactly what is selling and what is not selling.

The Retail Head allocates MCX space in proportion to the demographics, square footage, and category demand. Inventory movement is tracked by category sales per square foot and inventory turns. Space allocated is adjusted periodically for season specials.

Our MCX buyers are very open to suggestions for merchandise assortment or brands desired by our customers. They do not hesitate to bring in new items or brands to test demand for the product, and likewise, they do not hesitate to discontinue items that don't sell. You can contact any buyer either through the comment card system at the MCX, via e-mail (www.talktomccs@usmc-mccs.org) or by speaking with the manager or a sale associate at the MCX. They will do anything possible to meet your needs.

The MCX can also special order any item for our customers that we do not carry in stock. We do this for merchandise that we no longer carry due to low demand, or for items that the customer needs but we do not carry. Our goal is to create loyal customers who prefer to order the items through the

MCX until an item makes it to the merchandise assortment.

MCCS wants your business and will do whatever we can to meet your shopping or service needs. We make every effort to carry a wide array of merchandise for our patrons and strive to save our customers' time, money and to provide a good shopping experience. We are interested in your suggestions and would like to address your specific concerns. You can help by contacting Iris Tokita-Young in the buying office at 254-7527.

The MCBH population contributes immensely to the Quality of Life experienced by our military community when you choose to use on base MCX programs and services. This is possible because every penny spent on base supports MCCS programs and services. Hence, our logo "From You For You."

Profits from the MCX and other MCCS programs have produced over \$75 million in new facilities aboard the base from 1997 and funded through 2009. These include the MCX, the Mokapu Mall, the Semper Fit Center, Kahuna's Enlisted Club, Kahuna's Recreation Center, The Lodge at Kaneohe Bay, the Staff NCO Club, the Officers' Club, the Hourly Child Development Center, the Gas-N-More Store, the 28-Room Cabana Recreation Rooms at Hale Koa Beach, new tee to green PGA quality golf cart paths, a new Papa John's Pizza Restaurant in 2004, two new 7-Day Stores, and Manana Housing in 2005, a new Youth Center at K-Bay in 2005, a new Self-Storage Facility in 2005, newly renovated Golf Club House in 2005,

See CG MAIL, A-7

Command responds to concerns

Sgt. Jereme L. Edwards

Training / Ops Chief

Staff noncommissioned officers from MCB Hawaii came together during a SNCO call Aug. 27, where they discussed orders, updates and overall state of the Marine Corps.

Base Deputy Commander Col. Richard C.

Roten addressed the audience, and then opened up the floor to questions and concerns.

Some of the concerns brought to the table about school bus and pedestrian safety on Mokapu Road required some further investigation by the Base Inspector's Office. Listed below are the questions of concern and the findings from the inspector's office.

The school bus has been late in picking up school children in the morning (arriving at school 45 minutes late). Are base residents getting the same bus service as provided to off-base residents in town? Are buses routinely late for pick-up and drop-off?

Roberts Hawaii provides the same quality of contracted bus services to both military students on MCB Hawaii and public students. Safety is the main concern for all who ride their vehicles, no matter what their status may be. During the first week of school there was a problem with the bus service that was brought to the attention of the State's Department of Education (DoE). One bus operated all of MCBH to Kainalu Elementary. The bus was arriving at Kainalu between 8:10 - 8:15 a.m. On Aug. 30, Roberts Hawaii met with the vice principal at Kainalu Elementary and the DoE Student Transportation Officer regarding the complaints that the students were getting to school late. The State's decision was to add an additional bus, starting Sept. 1, to service MCBH and ensure students arrived at school on time.

Now they arrive at the school between 7:45 and 7:50 a.m., a difference of about 20-30 minutes in drop off time.

Roberts Hawaii normally provides on-time bus service per their contract, but occasionally runs into delays due to construction and increased traffic on the roads.

The school buses appear to be crowded. Are the school buses overcrowded and are they operating within federal law? Are bus drivers authorized to discipline the children on the bus?

Elementary school students can legally be seated

three to a seat on each bus. The bus loads vary depending on the route; if the volume is low, they would be able to seat two children per seat. Because of the overload of students at Mokapu Elementary this school year, the overflow students have been relocated to Kainalu and Kailua Elementary, and these students ride free of charge.

The base inspectors have been monitoring the buses prior to them departing the base over the past week and a half and have verified the buses are not overcrowded.

Roberts Hawaii is not authorized to discipline students in the form of corporal punishment; however, the bus drivers can write an ST 15 form, which is turned into the school for the appropriate disciplinary action.

A concern was raised about pedestrian safety and traffic on Mokapu during the morning hours (Marines going to McDonalds in the morning and those not using crosswalks). A suggestion was made to have flashing lights installed along Mokapu to heighten safety awareness. Is there a traffic safety issue near the school during peak drop-off and pick-up times? Is there a pedestrian safety hazard to children along Mokapu Road? Is there a pedestrian safety hazard for Marines/Sailors along Mokapu in vicinity of 3rd Marines and McDonalds? Would Flashing Pedestrian/School Zone lights along Mokapu make safer conditions for children, Marines/Sailors? Does the traffic pattern need to be altered or road modifications made to better handle traffic on Mokapu during peak hours?

Some congestion does occur in front of the school during peak hours (7:15 - 7:55 a.m., 1:50 - 2:30 p.m., and 12:50 - 1:30 p.m. on Wednesdays) for approximately 30 to 40 minutes in the morning and afternoon. The congestion is worse for the first couple of weeks of each school year due to new students and parents who are not familiar with the drop off points and traffic flow. The congestion is a result of between 100-200 cars entering and exiting the school drop-off/pickup areas during this peak time period.

This is an issue that has been addressed in various forums over the years. In fact, a contracted traffic study for MCBH was conducted in 2000. Some of the recommendations from the study called for a construction project to improve traffic flow, but due to other higher priorities on the base they were not funded.

The Provost Marshals Office (PMO) provides traffic directors during the first two weeks of the new school year to mitigate some of the confusion, congestion and illegal parking at the school. PMO is also currently working with facilities to implement inexpensive but effective traffic flow improvements by painting flow lines and adding traffic signs for the main parking and drop-off areas.

The Provost Marshals Office will also be distributing traffic flow diagrams to base residents prior to the beginning of the next

See RESPONSE, A-7

Word on the street

"What is the first thing you notice when you meet someone?"



Jenny Graul
Family Member

"I notice how outgoing their personality is. Whether they are overly friendly, or something like that."



Lance Cpl. Darren Stone
Mechanic
Motor Transport, 3rd Radio Bn.

"Their face. I have a knack for remembering faces."



Glacial Richardson
Cashier
Subway

"The way they dress. Clothes make a person, and it is a good way to judge personality."



Lance Cpl. Clifford Gamble
Cannoneer
Bravo Battery, 1/12

"I pay attention to a person's attitude. It shows me how to react to them."



Jessie Till
and daughter Katie
Family members

"Probably their smile. Is it happy or sad? It tells me their mood."

HAULIN' ASSETS

Army assists in HCAX transport

Story and Photos By
Sgt. Joseph A. Lee
Press Chief

The U.S. Army was called to assist in transportation of 1,446 Marines and Sailors and 1,731 tons of equipment to the Big Island of Hawaii for the Hawaii Combined Arms Exercise utilizing an experimental 96-meter, wave-piercing catamaran dubbed the Joint Venture High Speed Vessel-X1 (Experimental 1). Transport began Friday and wrapped up Tuesday.

Commanded by vessel master Chief Warrant Officer 4 Charles West, the Joint Venture HSV-X1 has provided a way to combine needed training with field-testing of the experimental vessel.

"You call, we haul," said Chief Warrant Officer-3 Brian Duff, 2nd engineer aboard the Joint Venture. "For transporting troops, this experimental vessel has proven to be quite the asset."

Able to haul equipment and troops four-times faster than similar-sized sea-going vessels, HSV-X1 is powered by four turbine jet engines, which kick out slightly less than 10,000 horsepower each, totaling for a near 40,000 horsepower vessel, able to cut through the open ocean at a top speed of nearly 40 knots with no use whatsoever of traditional propellers.

"A normal trip to the Big Island aboard an LSV would take about 16-18 hours," said Duff. "On the Joint Venture, that time is cut down to four to six hours, and we can transport many more troops safely aboard the Joint Venture."

The jet engines, built by Caterpillar, are able to fill an Olympic-sized swimming pool in less than five minutes, according to Duff.

As passengers recline in their seats watching the latest DVD releases, the HSV sliced through the open ocean, delivering the Marines to the Big Island in record time.

"It was a very smooth ride," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Miguel Saenz, hospital corpsman with Communications Platoon, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment. "It has a lot more room than other ships I have traveled on since I've been in, but it is a bit smaller, so there's a bit more bobbing than I'm used to. But it was a great ride overall."

Leased by the U.S. Government from Bollinger/Incat USA, the large catamaran design was originally used for civilian high speed ferries.

Although the wave-piercing design has been around for a number of years, only recently have the militaries of numerous nations been taking an interest in these craft.

In 1998, the U.S. Navy undertook development work and sponsored the evaluation of an Incat 91-meter vessel.

In 1999, the Royal Australian Navy chartered the Incat 86-meter vessel, "Jervis Bay," for use during the East Timor Crisis. Military personnel from both the Australian and US Naval commands were impressed with the vessel's performance and capabilities and its potential for performing various military roles.

In 2001 Incat of Australia formed a strategic alliance with Bollinger Shipyard of the U.S., to market and build military

and commercial craft of the Incat wave piercing design. Later in 2001, joint forces from the U.S. Military awarded Bollinger / Incat a contract to build the HSV-X1 for an evaluation of the crafts potential in various trials and demonstrations.

Since the HSV-X1's military transformation, the Navy and Army have had the opportunity to test its capabilities. Throughout the past year, the Army crew that currently operates the vessel has taken the HSV-X1 on a series of exercises ranging from Okinawa, Japan to Korea, to Thailand, accruing mileage equivalent to a trip twice around the world, as their adventures aboard the vessel come to a close with the assistance in this H/CAX exercise.

"The uses of this vessel in the U.S. Military are endless," said Duff. "With the speed and cargo-carrying capabilities it has, I wouldn't be surprised to see many more of these vessels in the fleets of our future Army and Navy yards."

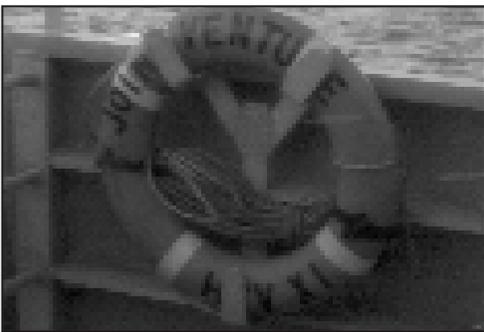


Above — Two of the Joint Venture's four 10,000 horsepower turbine engines can be seen launching water as the vessel cruises at high speed. The four turbines combined are said to have the power to fill an olympic-sized swimming pool in five seconds.

Below — High Speed Vessels like this HSV-2, moored at Pearl Harbor Naval Station after Rim of the Pacific 2004, can reach speeds of nearly 40 knots with no use whatsoever of typical propellers.



Photo Courtesy of Seaman Ryan C. McGinley



Above — The U.S. Army bridge crew, comprised mostly of Army Warrant Officers, easily navigates the HSV-X1 through the Hawaiian waters.

Left — Royal Tongan Marine Capt. Sione Ulakai regroups his troops as they debark the U.S. Army's Joint Venture HSV-X1 at their destination. The Army's experimental High Speed Vessel was used to transport the Royal Tongan Marines and their host, 2/3, from Oahu to the Big Island, Tuesday for HCAX.

CIF saves time, money and lives

**Story and Photos By
Sgt. Jerome L. Edwards**
Training/Ops Chief

With the ever-changing climate of today's War on Terror, the Consolidated Issue Facility here provides an invaluable service to military members. The CIF, which officially opened here in June 2003, has saved units tens of thousands of dollars with improved efficiency and by taking care of repairs to damaged equipment in-house.

"The CIF was created to consolidate individual unit issue points to better manage gear, and provide better equipment for the Marines and Sailors that they service," said Aisha Denney, office manager with the CIF. "The CIF issues and repairs 782 gear and combat equipment to the Marines and Sailors stationed here," said Denney.

According to the CIF's standard operating procedure, new Marines and Sailors are required to check in with the CIF in uniform. They should bring with them their unit check-in sheet along with a copy of their permanent change of station or permanent change of assignment orders indicating what unit the individual is assigned to. In turn, this determines the standard unit of issues each Marine or Sailor shall receive.

"The individual Marine or Sailor will be responsible for maintaining and accountability of his or her gear issue until he or she receives new orders to either PCA or PCS," said Denney.

Individuals executing PCS orders will permanently checkout of the CIF. Check out sheets from their appropriate consoli-

dated personnel administrative centers are required to complete this process.

Individuals will ensure that all items are free of trash and clean, prior to turn in. The CIF will not accept soiled or dirty equipment for turn-in. All issued items must be recovered from Marines and Sailors checking out of the CIF.

"Individuals found to have missing gear must fill out a missing gear statement, and must also be counseled by a disinterested officer on the matter of reimbursing the government for the items lost," said Denney.

Once the individual's commanding officer signs off on the gear statement it will be certified "true copy" by the unit.

"Marines or Sailors with missing gear can also elect to purchase the missing gear from the MCX Annex. However, when doing so they need to ensure that the item they are purchasing is government issue, just like the one that they misplaced," said Denney. "If it isn't government issue the CIF will not accept the item," added Denney.

The CIF also has a laundry and repair facility that eliminates the need to send gear off base to a paid contractor for cleaning or repair, which saves the units and government a lot of money each month.

"The CIF personnel inspect

each item as it is turned in. If the item appears to be worn or damaged from normal wear and tear, a damaged gear statement is not required. Service members can exchange these items one for one," said Denney. "However, if the items appear to be damaged due to neglect, a damaged gear statement must be run through their

command and signed by their respective commanding officer in order to facilitate the replacement of the damaged item." Denney said.

Service members can log onto www.usmc.cif.com for more information about the Consolidated Issue Facility.



The Consolidated Issue Facility issues and repairs 782 gear and combat equipment to Marines and Sailors stationed here.



Brandon Kishida, assistant warehouse manager, uses one of the computer terminals to check in gear being returned by Cpl. Baldonix Rodriguez, PCS chief with Headquarters Company, 3rd Marine Regiment.



Right and above — Beverly Kishida, sewing machine operator in the laundry and repair facility, uses various sewing equipment to repair a sleep system, which was recently returned to the Consolidated Issue Facility here.



Lance Cpl. Willard J. Lathrop

Staff Sgt. Jonathan D. White, a special equipment staff noncommissioned officer for the 31st MEU Deep Reconnaissance Platoon, fires his pistol during training aboard the USS Essex. The DRP is currently deployed with the Marines and Sailors of the 31st MEU in the Northern Arabian Gulf. Combined with the Sailors of Amphibious Squadron 11 in the U. S. Central Command's area of operations, they continue to represent a force in readiness, with "Strike from the Sea" capability in the Global War on Terrorism.

Group supports combat readiness

Lance Cpl. Willard J. Lathrop
31st MEU Combat Correspondent

ABOARD USS ESSEX, Northern Arabian Gulf — When you need a shoulder to cry on, you turn to your family. When your lawn needs mowing, you get the neighbor boy to mow it for five bucks. But when your Marines need ammunition, your trucks need fuel and nobody has had chow in three days, you call the MEU Service Support Group for all of your mission needs.

The mission of MSSG-31 is to support the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit in every aspect concerning ground combat support, by supplying it with everything from ammunition and fuel to electricity and mail.

The MSSG is merely a smaller version of a Force Service Support Group, with all of the same capabilities, just on a smaller scale, Capt. Jeffrey R. Strohmaier, MSSG-31 operations officer explained.

The Combat Service Support Element is comprised of eight detachments, including Headquarters, Supply, Maintenance, Motor Transportation, Engineers, Health Services, Landing Support and Communications, that combine to provide 24-hour support to the MEU.

The role of MSSG-31 is to anticipate and fulfill the MEU's combat service support requirements as much as possible, 1st Lt. Angela Dotson, MSSG-31 supply officer, said.

The Supply Detachment of MSSG-31 is responsible for the management and distribution of all classes of supply for up to 15 days. Some supplies include Meals Ready to Eat, batteries, ammunition, medical supplies and truck transmissions. The importance of this unit is apparent because we can't go to war without bullets, said Sgt. Juan C. Palacios, ordnance Marine with Ammunition Company.

The Maintenance Detachment is responsible for maintaining motor transport vehicles, ordnance, engineering, communications and electronics equipment. The maintenance group can fix almost everything the MEU uses, and has the ability to perform more maintenance than what is authorized at the user level, Gunnery Sgt. Triston O. Spencer, group gunnery sergeant for MSSG-31, said.

Motor transport provided by MSSG-31 delivers bulk items through convoy support, which carry and deliver personnel, fuel, water, ammunition and other tactical assets to MEU operational areas.

The Engineering Detachment delivers general engineering support via mobile electric power and lighting, fuel storage and distribution, hygiene services, demolition, obstacle removal, explosive ordnance disposal, water production, storage and distribution.

The water produced by the Reverse Osmosis Production Unit is actually better quality than most bottled water, according to Strohmaier.

The Health Services Support Detachment provides all dental and medical services, ranging from casualty treatment to preventative medicine and routine dental treatment. Health Services is made up of Naval personnel assigned to the MSSG, filling the critical fields of preventive medicine, pharmacy, dental and field

medicine.

Headquarters Detachment contains the staff sections and takes care of monetary disbursement, postal services and military police. Disbursing handles pay, check cashing, and processes travel claims while underway, or during MEU operations ashore. The Post Office is handled at sea by Navy post office personnel and by the MSSG once the MEU has disembarked from the ships. The Military Police Detachment provides force protection, riot control and detains enemy prisoners of war, among other responsibilities.

The Landing Support Detachment enables

See MSSG, A-8

TRAP team prepares for contingency ops

Lance Cpl. Willard J. Lathrop
31st MEU

ABOARD USS ESSEX, Northern Arabian Gulf — The members of the Battalion Landing Team, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment Tactical Recovery of Aircraft Personnel Team performed reaction training in the ship's hangar bay Sept. 7.

The TRAP team is a composite group of

Marines and Sailors from units within the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit who conduct missions to recover downed personnel and aircraft, and destroy the aircraft if necessary.

Team members stood on line, reacting to invisible enemies from different directions, under the supervision of Staff Sgt. Jamie H. Tsang, assistant TRAP Force commander.

See TRAP, A-8

September is National Food Safety & Education Month

Army inspectors ensure food safety

Army Warrant Officer Budd A. Dodge
Central Pacific District Veterinary Command

Yes, that is correct, U.S. Army Food Inspector. Their official military title is 91R, Veterinary Food Inspection Specialist. They exist and work to protect the health of the public, to include Marines, Sailors, soldiers, airmen and family members, government employees, retirees, and anyone else authorized to shop or

eat food on military installations. In addition, they help to look out for the financial interests of the United States Government and its procurement of food items.

The Army Food Inspector falls under the Veterinary field and that is a long story in itself. They are the DoD Executive Agent for inspecting food for the US Army, Navy and Marine Corps. Here in Hawaii, they are responsible for inspecting all food delivered on military bases; Schofield Barracks, Fort Shafter, Pearl Harbor, Barbers Point, Kaneohe MCB, and many other locations on Oahu, Kauai, Maui, Big Island, and even American Samoa.

The food inspectors have offices located in all the major DeCA commissaries where they spend most of their day inspecting deliveries and performing walk-through inspections of the numerous commissary departments. Having a food inspection office located at the commissary allows the inspector the best opportunity to inspect the foods being delivered to the store. DeCA commissaries handle approximately 75 percent of all the food that is sold on each installation. Having their office at the commissary doesn't stop them from traveling to other locations to visit and inspect foods at the Shoppettes, Exchanges, Food Courts, MWR Restaurants, Contracted Restaurants (Burger King, McDonalds, etc.), Child Development Centers, and Naval Vessels, to name a few.

The food inspector workday begins at the commissary with the first delivery at about 6 a.m. and continues throughout the day with several deliveries each day. During these deliveries, inspectors verify proper delivery temperature, proper quantity and quality, items

originated from an approved food source, and countless other checks. Between deliveries, you can find them walking the commissary sales floor checking cooler and freezers temperatures, checking each store department to ensure proper food handling and personal hygiene practices are being followed, proper condition of food items on the sales floor is maintained. They also provide assistance to customers who may have questions regarding foods sold in the commissary. You can recognize the food inspector, they are the ones wearing the white lab coats and berets while indoors, or simply ask a commissary representative to page them.

One of their numerous missions, and perhaps one of the most important at the commissary, is to handle customer complaints regarding food items. When a customer has a complaint with a food item, he can return the food item to the Customer Service Department at the commissary. With help from a Customer Service Representative, the customer can fill out a DeCA Form 40-45, Food Quality Report,

which details the product information: when it was purchased, what was wrong with it, as well as how it was handled. This DeCA Form 40-45, along with the returned food item, is forwarded to the Food Inspection Office.

The first thing the food inspector does with the returned food item is check its date and code with the same item on the sales floor. If the date and code match the item, it is removed from the sales floor until the food inspector has completed his inspection. The inspector will then open several packages of the food item to determine whether the problem exists within the store or whether it is an isolated incident. Upon completing the inspection the food inspector will provide a disposition on the food item in question: return to the sales floor, throw away, or even send to the food laboratory for additional testing. The commissary will then contact the person who completed the Food Quality Report, if they requested this, and let them know the food inspector's find-

See FOOD, A-8



Cpl. Megan L. Stiner

Army Sgt. Joseph T. Fardella, veterinary food service specialist with the Army Veterinary Corps from Fort Shafter, looks over a yellow squash to check for freshness and cleanliness.



Cpl. Megan L. Stiner

Army Sgt. Joseph T. Fardella checks the quality and freshness of a salmon at the MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay Base Commissary.

DUIs are career killers

(Editor's Note: Per the commanding general of MCB Hawaii, those arrested for driving under the influence [DUI], driving while intoxicated or drug-related offenses shall be publicized in the *Hawaii Marine* newspaper.)

•Sept. 7, Sgt. Clinton C. Schwarz, of Headquarters Battalion, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, for driving under the influence and reckless driving with a blood alcohol content of .15 percent.

•Sept. 7, Cpl. Alvaro Y. Baron, of 3rd Marine Regiment for DUI, pending blood alcohol test results.

•Sept. 7, Lance Cpl. William C. Thompson, of Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24, for DUI underage drinking with a BAC of .04 percent.

•Sept. 12, Sgt. Joseph A. Gossman, of 3rd Marine Regiment for DUI, false reporting and disobedience to an officer after refusing a BAC test.

NJP Results

Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24, Marine Aircraft Group 24, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing held NJP on a Lance Cpl. for DUI on Sept. 8 with the following results:

•To be reduced to PFC (E-2), restriction and extra duties for 45 days, and forfeiture of 1/2 month's pay for 2 months and driver's license suspension for six months.

FAB, From A-1

According to Roy, without the assistance, military police members would not be able to go to the range, the gas chamber or run physical fitness tests as regularly as they are required. Personnel brought in from other units, not only learn more about different aspects of the Corps, they also assist the military police department in performing their necessary duties.

The Marines begin their FAP training by spending one week on the range. Some participants have never shot the pistol before and they are required to be able to safely and proficiently handle

and fire the weapon.

Week two is comprised of classroom courses and practical application in areas such as apprehension and detention, detection of drivers who are under the influence, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and filing reports.

The final stage for the FAP Marine is on-the-job training for one week at the front or back gate, with supervision and assistance from experienced MPs to be certain they are understanding and applying what they learned throughout the course.

Follow along with the FAP Marines throughout their training by picking up the *Hawaii Marine* in the weeks to come.

“ quotable ”

Courage is endurance for one moment more...

— Unknown Marine Second Lieutenant in Vietnam

'Skinny Dragons' train with foreign submarines

Lt. j.g. Shawn Spooner

Patrol Squadron 4

The Skinny Dragons of Navy Patrol Squadron 4 geared up for their upcoming deployment by participating in two multi-national exercises in the past month.

Cmdr. David Smith, commanding officer of VP-4 stated, "These two exercises were excellent opportunities for us to challenge aircrews in our primary mission area: undersea warfare. The CNS Simpson and the JDS Uzushio were formidable opponents and provided unique training opportunities for VP-4 and the entire task force. The coordinated Undersea and Surface Warfare training we received leaves us better prepared to execute our mission."

The first exercise involved the Skinny Dragons and the CNS Simpson, a type 209-diesel submarine from the Chilean Navy. The exercise kicked off the afternoon of Aug. 6 and lasted until the late evening of Aug. 8. VP-4 flew five missions totaling just over 36 hours.

The Simpson was transiting from the Hawaiian Islands to San Diego following her recent participation in Rim of the

Pacific 2004 exercise. This allowed for the qualification of four combat aircrews in the use of Extended Echo Ranging.

VP-4, as well as Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two, received the praise of Rear Admiral Micheal Holmes for the excellent planning and execution of this rare opportunity to conduct a training exercise with our South American Allies.

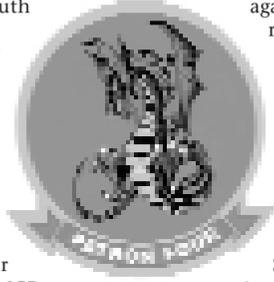
The Skinny Dragons executed these training missions from a detachment operating out of Hickam AFB, due to maintenance being performed at the Marine Corps Air Facility aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

"We received excellent support from the 15th Mobile Operations Control Center. They provided maintenance workspaces and flight line coordination on short notice. Without their help, this exercise would not have been a success," raved Lt. Cmdr. Brian Trotter, VP-4's

operations officer.

The latest exercise, "Silent Fury 04-2," took place over Labor Day weekend involving the JDS Uzushio, the USS Chafee, the USS Key West, the USNS Loyal, VP-47 and VP-4. During a routine transit, the JDS Uzushio provided U.S. forces the opportunity to conduct coordinated Anti-Submarine Warfare against a difficult diesel submarine. Several different variations of acoustic and non-acoustic search sensors were utilized, including Extended Echo Ranging.

Also, the Skinny Dragons were able to fly around the clock, maintaining acoustic contact on a submarine of interest. The Skinny Dragons flew 12 missions totaling over 100 hours in the three-day period that encompassed Labor Day weekend. "The opportunity to track a diesel submarine on Labor Day proved to be a good labor," stated Petty Officer 3rd Class Darrin Elledge, acoustic operator for Combat Air Crew 11 after his 13-hour event completed the prosecution.



Marine Regiment.

According to 1st Lt. Daniel Loughry, the executive officer of Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, and liaison for the Singaporean soldiers, the Singaporean soldiers had hours of beneficial training in the ISMT. They fired small arms such as the M-16A2 and M-16A4 rifles, pistols and medium machine guns, while developing their individual riflemen and forward observer techniques with the Tongan Marines.

The Singaporean soldiers were also qualified to fast rope out of CH-53D "Sea Stallion" helicopters that will be at HCAX, and they completed in and out drills with the Marines from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363.

While at HCAX, the Singaporean soldiers will be trained in sustainment and stability operations, including convoy operations, coordinate searches, personnel searches, and vehicle checkpoint operations. They will also apply delivered attack and patrolling techniques

throughout the exercise.

"This type of bilateral training between the Singaporeans, Tongans, and our Marines is done to strengthen the mutual bond between the Marines, and to learn from and develop international relationships," explained Loughry. "While on base, the Marines and Singaporeans had not trained much together, we had to prepare them first. The actual joint bilateral training begins when HCAX officially kicks off."

RESPONSE, From A-2

school year.

Due to the orientation of base housing to the school, the current assessment is that there is no significant pedestrian safety hazard to children from traffic on Mokapu Road.

Pole-mounted digital speed display signs (identical to those found on Pali Highway) have been funded and will be installed (prior to Sept. 30) on Mokapu Road near 3rd Marines' Headquarters building (seen traveling westbound) and one prior to the canal

(seen traveling eastbound) to heighten pedestrian and traffic safety.

No additional crosswalks are planned at this juncture. There are sufficient numbers in and around the busy area between McDonalds and 3rd Marines. All are reminded to use crosswalks vice jaywalking to reduce the likelihood of an automobile/pedestrian mishap.

Please feel free to address any additional concerns to the Base Inspector at 257-7717, Base Safety at 257-1830 or PMO at 257-3110.

CG MAIL, From A-2

two 18-hole miniature golf courses in 2005, a Quadplex Recreation Cabin at Pyramid Rock area in 2005, a new automated car wash in 2005, a new McDonald's Restaurant in 2005, a 26-room TLF addition in 2006, a renovated Auto Skills Development Center in 2006, fitness trails and pavilions at Riseley Field Complex in 2005 – 2007, a new MCX Annex and Convenience Store in 2007 – 2009, a new Troop 7-Day Store in 2009, and more. In addition to improvements in facilities, the proceeds from your shopping at the MCX and other

MWR programs contribute more than \$1 million a year in support of MCCS programs and services.

With your help and feedback we can accomplish the goal of improving the Quality of Life for our Marines, Sailors, and families aboard the base and improve the services available for all.

We appreciate your thoughtful comments and concerns. Thank you again for taking the time to participate in the "CG Mail" program.

William Lindsey
Assistant Chief of Staff
MCCS

HCAX, From A-1

ly looking forward to the Military Operations in Urban Terrain training. We usually just train in Jungle Warfare, so this is going to be something completely new for some of them."

While training on K-Bay, the Tongan Marines also cross-trained with the Singaporean soldiers from Ace Company, Singaporean Armed Forces, who are currently attached to Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd



Hawaii Marine File Photo

Sgt. Laura Owens works in her cammies in the combat zone at Pohakuloa Training Area. New, smaller female cammies should eliminate problems women have with extra, bulky fabric.

CAMMIES, From A-1

bunch up.

Additional information about female sizes will appear in Marine Corps publications and on Web sites about 30 days prior to their availability in stores. For more information regarding female-specific sized camouflage utilities, contact Dee Townes at townesd@mcsc.usmc.mil.

FOOD, From A-6

ings.

Even if you no longer have the item to return to the commissary or feel like the problem was no big deal, please come down and fill out a DeCA Form 40-45, Food Quality Report. The Food Inspector can still check on the complaint without the returned food item and determine whether the problem was "no big deal."

As you can see, the customer plays an important role in food safety within our community. Without your help in letting the commissary know they might have a possible problem, someone may end up eating that food item and getting sick. The Army Food Inspectors are here to serve and protect you, but without your help at times this can be very challenging.

MSSG, From A-5

the MEU to operate in such areas as embarkation, beach operations, port operations, material handling equipment and helicopter support teams.

The Communications Detachment provides the essential communication resources necessary for the MSSG to communicate effectively during operations. By networking radio and data systems, the communications detachment allows adjacent units to communicate with each other and higher headquarters.

The Group is comprised of all of these different elements, organized to be the logistical arm of the MEU. However, MSSG-31 doesn't only provide support for the MEU, but also carries out assigned special missions, Strohmaier said. These missions include Noncombatant Evacuation Operations, Civil Military Operations and Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief operations.

NEOs are conducted to extract civilians out of potentially hostile environments.

Three types of Civil Action Programs (CAP) are performed by MSSG-31: Medical CAP, Dental CAP and Engineer CAP.

During Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief operations, survey teams are dispatched to areas of need, such as a regions hit by typhoons, earthquakes or famines, and tasked to determine what type of support should be mustered.

All of these elements make up the MSSG and enable it to perform tasks that support the 31st MEU. Currently, MSSG-31 is underway with the 31st MEU aboard three ships of the Essex Amphibious Ready Group: USS Essex, USS Juneau and USS Harper Ferry. Combined with Sailors of Amphibious Squadron 11, in the U.S. Central Command area of operations, the 31st MEU continues to be a force in readiness in the Global War on Terrorism with "Strike from the Sea" capabilities.

So, if you have a complaint or maybe even just a question regarding food, come down to your local installation commissary and ask to see a commissary customer service representative or U.S. Army Food Inspector.

Enjoy your stay in Hawaii and remember every year, September is National Foods Safety Month. And always have the satisfaction of knowing someone is watching out for you and the food you eat.

9-11, From A-1

on that fateful day," said Lt. Cmdr. Nestor Nazario, Navy chaplain for Headquarters Bn., as he performed the invocation.

The Marine Forces Pacific Band opened the ceremony, and as the colors were raised and the poem "Old Glory" was solemnly recited, pride and sadness seemed to sweep over the crowd.

Col. Richard C. Roten, deputy commander of Marine Corps Base Hawaii, graciously took the role as the guest speaker during the ceremony.

"We come here together to commemorate the attack on our country on September 11, and to remember the thousands of lives lost on that day," Roten began. "We have to consider how we honor those who died that day. We do know those people were innocent and they were our countrymen, and they were attacked in a dastardly, cowardly, surprise attack."

Roten continued on to discuss the history of the Global War on Terrorism, and his belief that terrorism has been a problem in America for years prior to 9/11. He also discussed the four pillars of the Bush Doctrine, and how those pillars affect what the future will bring.

"As we look to commemorate the many deaths of Sept. 11, we must remember it as

TRAP, From A-5

"This type of training creates muscle memory so they (the Marines) won't freeze up in combat," Tsang said, a Lanesboro, Mass. native.

During this training evolution, they performed presentation and magazine exchange drills.

The presentation drills are designed to train the members of the TRAP team how to react on contacts quickly from different directions. Practicing for an hour or more at a time teaches the Marines to keep alert for

extended periods of time.

Following the commands, the team also conducted magazine exchange drills to ensure that team members learn to alternate reloading while maintaining fire superiority on a possible enemy. The exchange drill is also designed help the service members practice changing magazines rapidly, committing each step of the process to memory.

Throughout the deployment, the TRAP team will continue to build upon their skills in preparation for a possible call to action.

unfinished business. We are a nation at war, and it is a war we must win," said Roten. "This war is how we honor those who died. We are dedicated to the ultimate victory of the fight, we really have no choice."

Following Roten's remarks, Cpl. Epifanio Echavez and Lance Cpl. Adam Martinez, both telephone technicians with G-6, had the honor of bearing the memorial wreath and placing it at the head of the ceremony.

Once Roten saluted the Remembrance Wreath in honor of the lives lost on Sept. 11, the Master of Ceremonies listed the "Roll Call of Honor", and a chime sounded for each group of victims. This included the North Tower and South Tower of the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, American Airlines Flights 7 and 11, and finally United Airlines Flights 93 and 175.

After the completion of the "Roll Call of Honor," Marines from Alpha Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, conducted a 21-gun-salute that was followed by "Echo Taps" by the Marine Forces Pacific Band.

"For all of those deployed or who were just unable to be here today, remember that we have to be steadfast and win this war for all of the lives lost. Not just the lives lost on September 11, but all the lives lost since that day," said Roten. "We need to dedicate ourselves to that mission, and win the War on Terrorism."

The TRAP team is current-

ly deployed with the Marines and Sailors of the 31st MEU in the Northern Arabian Gulf. The MEU is embarked aboard the three ships of the Essex Amphibious Ready Group, USS Essex, USS Harpers Ferry and USS Juneau. Combined with the Sailors of Amphibious Squadron 11 in the U. S. Central Command's area of operations, the MEU continues to represent a force in readiness in the Global War on Terrorism with "Strike from the Sea" capability.